

The City Attorney's Office provides the city with legal counsel on all issues affecting the city and protects the city's interest in litigation. The City Attorney advises the Mayor, City Council, City Manager and Departments on legal issues and determines the legality of ordinances, resolutions, contracts, conveyances and other documents. The City Attorney also advises city boards, committees and commissions on matters within their respective jurisdiction, and works with the various city departments on special issues.

2002/03 Operational Highlights:

- Actively participated in mediation on a proposed regional settlement of water rights issues.
- Assumed leadership role in developing and implementing all necessary steps to move forward with the San Juan/Chama surface water diversion project, and actively worked to negotiate a perpetual agreement with the Bureau of Reclamation for the project's water production.
- Improved internal work delegation, management and monitoring of workload.
- Effectively advised the Governing Body on pending cases and legal matters, and ensured compliance with Open Meetings and Public Records requirements.
- Provided continuing support for city staff on all legal matters including personnel, union contracts and grievances, pending legislation, contract review, insurance claims, code interpretations, and various other legal concerns.
- Continued to receive funds for the city in large amounts resulting from sales of land at Tierra Contenta.

2003/04 Goals and Objectives:

- Continue to provide service levels for growing city demands.
- Maintain a customer service orientation for City Attorney's Office staff.
- Implement improved quasi-judicial appeal procedures.
- Identify and improve methods for dealing with long-term water supply goals.
- Continue to limit the city's liability and exposure.

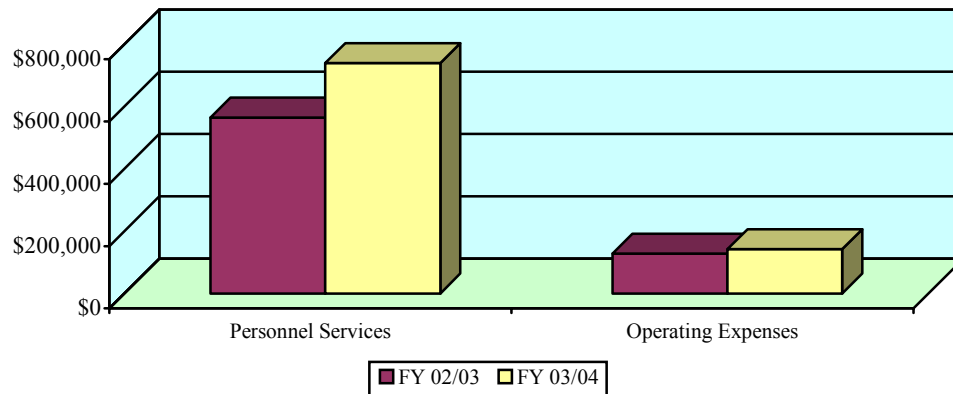
Budget Commentary:

The FY 2003/04 General Fund operating budget of \$882,374 provides funding for the City Attorney and staff, \$26,609 for the Municipal Prosecutor's contract, \$50,000 for outside counsel contracts, and \$2,000 for special Municipal Court judges and prosecutors for cases involving conflicts of interest. Other major expenses include miscellaneous professional service contracts in the amount of \$5,500 and various subscription and book updates for

the law library at a cost of \$24,000. An Assistant City Attorney and Paralegal continue to be funded by the Water Division due to their responsibility for legal aspects of water resource matters. An Assistant City Attorney position was added during the FY 2003/04 budget process.

<u>POSITION/CLASSIFICATION</u>	<u>FY 02/03 ACTUAL</u>	<u>FY 03/04 BUDGET</u>
City Attorney	1 – EX	1 – EX
Assistant City Attorney	4 – EX	6 – EX
Assistant City Attorney	1 – CLFT	0 – CLFT
Office Manager	1 – EX	1 – EX
Paralegal	<u>3 – CLFT</u>	<u>3 – CLFT</u>
TOTAL:	10	11

EXPENDITURE CLASSIFICATION



	<u>FY 02/03 REVISED</u>	<u>FY 03/04 APPROPRIATION</u>
Personnel Services	\$ 564,922	\$ 740,160
Operating Expenses	<u>127,660</u>	<u>142,214</u>
TOTAL:	\$ 692,582	\$ 882,374